

Brookline Parking Committee

Meeting Summary: August 11, 2008

Attendees: Selectmen Jesse Mermell (Co-Chair), Bill Schwartz (At-Large, Co-Chair), Hsiu-Lan Chang (Business Representative), Capt. Michael Gropman (Brookline Police), Steve Heikin (Housing Advisory Board), Jerry Kampler (Planning Board), Todd Kirrane (DPW Transportation Division), Jeff Levine (Planning Department), Werner Lohe (Conservation Commission), Sean Lynn-Jones (Advisory Committee), Hugh Mattison (At-Large), Linda Pehlke (At-Large), Al Raine (EDAB), Mike Sandman (Transportation Board), Paul Saner (Zoning Bylaw Committee)

Absent: Peter Furth (Transportation Board), Myra Trachtenberg (Zoning Bylaw Committee)

The first meeting of the Brookline Parking Committee was held at Town Hall on August 11, 2008 from 6-8 pm. Introductions were made, the committee charge was read, and a schedule of meetings was established as the 2nd Monday of the month.

Selectmen Mermell provided an overview of the committee's need and time frame (approximately one year). Bill Schwartz gave an overview of the role of the various town departments, boards, and commissions in parking.

Planning Director Jeff Levine briefly discussed the role of the Planning and Community Development Department, the Planning Board, and the Zoning Board of Appeals as related to parking. He offered that current parking requirements can result in projects dominated by parking structures, which can lead to poor urban design.

Todd Kirrane distributed a handout describing the DPW Engineering/Transportation Division duties and responsibilities and coordination with other departments.

Captain Gropman distributed a handout describing the duties and responsibilities of the Traffic Division of the Police Department.

Members of the committee offered various observations regarding what they would like to see the committee accomplish.

The committee decided to hold a set of monthly meetings focused on specific topics featuring a staff presentation followed by a brainstorming session. The next two meetings will focus on zoning (September 8, 2008), and parking management (October 15, 2008).